

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

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O R 041730Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3647

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4416

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS/ PINS, PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) LISBON 4414; (B) LISBON 4399; (C) LISBON 3517

SUMMARY: NEW GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED. AMADORA COMMANDO REGIMENT WILL MEET LATER TODAY TO CONSIDER FURTHER CASE OF ITS OUSTED COMMANDER, COL. JAIME NEVES. TWO DEATHS REPORTED IN CONTINUING INCIDENTS IN AREA NORTH OF LISBON. LARGE DEMONSTRATION AUGUST 3 IN COIMBRA IN SUPPORT OF CHURCH AND HIERARCHY PRODUCED MILITANT CALL FOR INCREASED POLITICAL ACTIVISM ON PART OF FAITHFUL. PCP LEADER CUNHAL SPEAKING AT PCP RALLY IN EVORA AUGUST 3 APPEALED TO FAR LEFT TO JOIN IN UNIFIED STRUGGLE AGAINST FORCES OF REACTION. CUNHAL'S

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APPEAL BETRAYS PCP NERVOUSNESS OVER CURRENT SITUATION. SECOND

CONGRESS OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCILS OF WORKERS, SOLDIERS,  
AND SAILORS (CRT'S) MET IN LISBON AUGUST 2-3. END SUMMARY

1. NEW GOVERNMENT: AS OF 1730 HOURS THE NEW PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS STILL NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED. EMBASSY SOURCES SAY PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES HAS LOST BATTLE WITH MODERATES AND MAY BE OUT (REFTEL A). THE DIRECTORATE CONTINUES IN SESSION.

2. AMADORA COMMANDOS: PERSONNEL OF AMADORA COMMANDO REGIMENT ARE MEETING TODAY AUGUST 4 TO CONSIDER FURTHER THE ABRUPT TRANSFER OF UNIT COMMANDER COL. JAIME NEVES AND 12 OTHERS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SENTIMENT WITHIN THE UNIT FAVORS RETURNING NEVES AND THE OTHERS TO THEIR POSITIONS WITHIN UNIT.

3. MORE VIOLENCE: THERE HAS BEEN A FURTHER ESCALATION IN THE CONTINUING VIOLENCE NORTH OF LISBON.

-IN VILA NOVA DE FAMILICANO, INCIDENTS WHICH BEGAN ON AUGUST 1 WITH TRASHING OF MDP/CDE OFFICES CONTINUED OVER WEEKEND (REFTEL B). CROWD MADE ANOTHER ATTEMPT UPON PCP OFFICES WHICH WERE OCCUPIED BY MILITARY PERSONNEL, PCP MILITANTS HAVING WITHDRAWN UNDER MILITARY PROTECTION. TENSION REMAINS HIGH IN FAMILICANO AND IN THE NORTH IN GENERAL. WE HAVE REPORTS THAT DEATHS WERE RESULT OF ARMY CAPTAIN FIRING HIS PISTOL INTO CROWD. SOLDIERS ALLEGEDLY OFFERED TO TURN THEIR WEAPONS OVER TO CROWD AFTER SHOOTING. LOCAL CITIZENS NOW ARE OUT LOOKING FOR THE CAPTAIN.

--IN POVOA DE Lanhoso, DEMONSTRATORS SACKED PCP AND MDP/CDE OFFICES AUGUST 3 DESPITE PRESENCE OF LOCAL MILITARY UNITS.

4. CATHOLIC DEMONSTRATION IN COIMBRA: AUGUST 3 DEMONSTRATION BY COIMBRA CATHOLICS IN SUPPORT OF CHURCH HIERARCHY BROUGHT OUT SECOND LARGEST CROWD TO ASSEMBLE THERE SINCE APRIL 1974 REVOLUTION. CROWD OF THOUSANDS SWELLED BY DEMONSTRATORS COMING INTO CITY FROM OTHER PRPTS OF DIOCESE. BISHOP SPOKE TO CROWD, CONDEMNING CAMPAIGN OF VERBAL ABUSE AGAINST CHURCH, USURPATION OF RADIO RENASCENCA, AND ATTEMPTS TO DIVIDE CHURCH BY SEPARATING PEOPLE FROM THEIR PRIESTS AND BISHOPS. BISHOP REPEATED HIERARCHY'S CONCERN ABOUT CURRENT TRENDS IN PORTUGUESE SOCIETY AS EXPRESSED IN PASTORAL LETTER OF JUNE 18 (REFTEL C). BISHOP CALLED FOR INCREASING MILITANCY BY FAITHFUL WHO WERE ASKED TO

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ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES IN THIS "HOUR OF ACTION." IN FIELD, FACTORY, WORKSHOP, SHCOOL, UNION, NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS, "NONE OF US CAN DESERT. POLITICAL ABSENCE WOULD BE A CRIME."

5. CUNHAL APPEALS TO FAR LEFT: PCP SECRETARY GENERAL CUNHAL APPEALED AUGUST 3 FOR UNITY OF ALL PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN FACE OF COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY DANGER. SPEAKING AT PCP RALLY IN EVORA, CUNHAL WARNED THAT "ANTI-COMMUNISM IS THE NUMBER ONE

ARM OF COUNTER-REVOLUTION." IF COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES ARE AFTER COMMUNISTS TODAY, TOMORROW IT WILL BE TURN OF THOSE (ON FAR LEFT) WHOSE OPPORTUNISTIC ANTI-COMMUNISM HAS OPENED GATES TO REACTION.

6. SECOND CRT CONGRESS: THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCILS OF WORKERS, SOLDIERS, AND SAILORS (CRT'S) HELD THEIR SECOND NATIONAL CONGRESS AUGUST 2 AND 3 IN LISBON. SEVERAL HUNDRED DELEGATES PRESENT FOR CONGRESS PRAISED AFM PROGRAM FOR "DIRECT DEMOCRACY" AS A "GREAT ADVANCE FOR THE WORKING MASSES," BUT ALSO NOTED THAT REVOLUTION THREATENED MORE THAN EVER FROM WITHIN AS WELL AS WITHOUT.

7. COMMENT: CUNHAL'S EVORA SPEECH MADE CLEAR PCP'S PREOCCUPATION WITH SERIES OF ATTACKES ON PARTY OFFICES AND PERSONNEL ACROSS NORTHERN AND CENTRAL PORTUGAL. LONG DELAY IN FORMING FIFTH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, WHICH HAS OMINOUS IMPLICATIONS FOR PM GONCALVES' CONTINUITY IN OFFICE AND PCP'S CONSEQUENT CONTINUITY AT CENTER OF POWER STRUCTURE, WAS SECOND REASON FOR CUNHAL'S CONCERN. HIS APPEAL TO REVOLUTIONARY FAR LEFT, WHICH PCP UNTIL RECENTLY HAS ROUNDLY DENOUNCED FOR "CHILDISHNESS" AND "ADVENTURISM," BETRAYS PCP NERVOUSNESS OVER CURRENT SITUATION. CAPT. RAMIRO CORREIA, COMMUNIST-SYMPATHIZING HEAD OF ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF'S FIFTH DIVISION (PROPAGANDA AND CULTURAL DYNAMIZATION) EXHIBITED SAME NERVOUSNESS IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF AUGUST 4.

8. REMARKS BY BISHOP OF COIMBRA MARK SECOND TIME SINCE REVOLUTION THAT HIERARCHY HAS SEND OUT CLEAR, SPECIFIC CALL TO ACTION BY FAITHFUL. FIRST WAS DURING ELECTION CAMPAIGN, WHEN BISHOPS CALLED ON CHRISTIANS TO VOTE FOR IDEOLOGICALLY ACCEPTABLE PARTIES AND EXCLUDED "BLANK VOTE" ALTERNATIVE. CURRENT CALL FOR INCREASED MILITANCY ALREADY BEING GIVEN IMPETUS BY PARISH PRIESTS, URGING AND WORKING WITH PARISHIONERS IN EFFORT TO ORGANIZE. BOTH

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PATRIARCH OF LISBON AND PAPAL NUNCIO HAVE TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT CHURCH IS DETERMINED TO ENGAGE IN UNIFIED STRUGGLE AGAINST AFM PRO-COMMUNIST ACTS.

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